



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Technology Center 1700

Facsimile Transmission

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37 C.F.R. 1.6 sets forth the types of correspondence that can be communicated to the Patent and Trademark Office via facsimile transmissions. Applicants are advised to use the certificate of facsimile transmission procedures when submitting a reply to a non-final or final Office action by facsimile (37 CFR 1.8(a)).

Fax Notes:

Please review and reply to the proposed Examiner's Amendment no later than 12 noon Monday, October 20.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with *** on ***.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification

p. 5 paragraph 0020 line 1, to correctly recite the damping ratio " $\tan \delta$ " has been changed to -- $\tan \delta$ -- ;

p. 5 paragraph 0021 has been rewritten to provide antecedent basis for newly presented claim 31 as --

It is also possible, in order to preserve or improve the drift thrust and lifetime properties, to add, on the same side as the second rubber decoupling layer, an additional reinforcing ply consisting of cords oriented in the circumferential direction and extending axially roughly like the second rubber decoupling layer, for example having substantially the same inner and outer axial extension as the second rubber decoupling layer. That additional reinforcing ply can be placed radially outside or inside the two superposed reinforcing plies or between those two plies. -- ;

p. 8 paragraph 0033 has been rewritten to provide antecedent basis for newly presented claim 32 as --

Ply 11 is placed radially outside the two plies 3 and 4 and axially extends roughly above the two lateral ends of plies 3 and 4, for example having substantially the same outer axial

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extension as the axially widest ply 4. That ply has the advantage of limiting the amplitude of the shear stresses between the ends of both plies 3 and 4 and thus of preserving and even increasing the drift thrust and lifetime (in the sense of endurance) properties, while having substantially improved the running resistance of the tire.

-- ;

p. 10 paragraph 0040 lines 5 and 7, to correctly recite the drift angle "α" has been changed to -- α -- .

In the claims

non-elected species claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled;

claim 19 line 10, the improper period in the middle of the claim has been changed to a semicolon;

claims 25-30 now duplicating claims 17-22 have been cancelled;

claim 31 line 1, to provide proper antecedent basis "said additional rows" has been changed to -- said additional row -- ;

claim 32 lines 2 and 3, to provide proper antecedent basis "the axially widest belt reinforcement reinforcing row" has been changed to -- the axially widest superposed reinforcing row -- .

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Upon reconsideration, although it is conventional to provide a ply of circumferentially oriented cords covering the belt ply axial edges, this would not necessarily result in the circumferential cord ply *extending axially roughly like said second rubber decoupling layer* as is required in claim 10.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adrienne C. Johnstone whose telephone number is (703)308-2059. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 10:00AM-6:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on (703)308-3853. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0661.

Adrienne C. Johnstone
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1733

Adrienne Johnstone

October 14, 2003